General Assembly

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Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 119

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 13 June 2014

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/68/L.50)*]

68/276. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, contained in General Assembly resolution 60/288 of 8 September 2006, and recalling Assembly resolution 66/282 of 29 June 2012, which called for, inter alia, an examination in two years of progress made in the implementation of the Strategy and for consideration to be given to updating it to respond to changes, as provided for in those resolutions,

Recalling the pivotal role of the General Assembly in following up the implementation and the updating of the Strategy,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 66/10 of 18 November 2011, and noting with appreciation that the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre has initiated its activities and will contribute to strengthening the United Nations counter-terrorism efforts,

Recognizing the important work carried out by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre established within the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office in accordance with General Assembly resolution 66/10 and the role of the Centre in building the capacity of Member States to counter and respond to terrorism, and encouraging Member States to provide resources and voluntary contributions to the Centre in this regard,

Renewing its unwavering commitment to strengthening international cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Reaffirming that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Noting with appreciation the continued contribution of United Nations entities and the subsidiary bodies of the Security Council to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force,

Recognizing that international cooperation and any measures taken by Member States to prevent and combat terrorism must fully comply with their obligations under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the purposes and principles thereof, and relevant international conventions and

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protocols, in particular human rights law, refugee law and international humanitarian law,

Recognizing also the need for Member States to prevent the abuse of non-governmental, non-profit and charitable organizations by and for terrorists, and calling upon non-governmental, non-profit and charitable organizations to prevent and oppose, as appropriate, attempts by terrorists to abuse the status of those organizations, while reaffirming the need to fully respect the rights to freedom of expression and association of individuals in civil society and to freedom of religion or belief of all persons,

Convinced that the General Assembly is the competent organ, with universal membership, to address the issue of international terrorism,

Mindful of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, within their mandates, in the implementation of the Strategy,

Underlining the fact that the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force should continue to carry out its activities within the framework of its mandate, with policy guidance offered by Member States through interaction with the General Assembly on a regular basis,

Reaffirming that the acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, at threatening territorial integrity and the security of States and at destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, and that the international community should take the necessary steps to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism in a unified manner,

Reiterating the obligation of Member States to prevent and suppress the financing of terrorist acts and to criminalize the wilful provision or collection, by any means, directly or indirectly, of funds by their nationals or in their territories, with the intention that the funds be used, or with the knowledge that they are to be used, in order to carry out terrorist acts,

Recognizing the role of the partnerships of regional and subregional organizations with the United Nations in combating terrorism, and encouraging the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, in accordance with its mandate, to closely cooperate and coordinate with regional and subregional organizations in their efforts to combat terrorism,

Alarmed by the acts of intolerance, violent extremism, violence, including sectarian violence, and terrorism in various parts of the world, which claim innocent lives, cause destruction and displace people, and rejecting the use of violence, regardless of motivation,

Expressing deep concern about the connections, in some cases, between some forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and emphasizing the need to enhance cooperation at the national, subregional, regional and international levels in order to strengthen responses to this evolving challenge,

Recognizing the commitment of all religions to peace, and determined to condemn acts of violent extremism and incitement to commit terrorist acts that spread hate and threaten lives,

Recognizing also the role that victims of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations can play, including in countering the appeal of terrorism, and

emphasizing the need to promote international solidarity in support of victims of terrorism and to ensure that victims of terrorism are treated with dignity and respect,

Noting the important contribution of women to the implementation of the Strategy, and encouraging Member States, United Nations entities and international, regional and subregional organizations to consider the participation of women in efforts to prevent and counter terrorism,

Reaffirming the commitment of Member States to take measures aimed at addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, including but not limited to prolonged unresolved conflicts, dehumanization of victims of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, lack of the rule of law and violations of human rights, ethnic, national and religious discrimination, political exclusion, socioeconomic marginalization and lack of good governance, while recognizing that none of these conditions can excuse or justify acts of terrorism,

1. *Reiterates its strong and unequivocal condemnation* of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes;

2. *Reaffirms* the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its four pillars, which constitute an ongoing effort, and calls upon Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to step up their efforts to implement the Strategy in an integrated and balanced manner and in all its aspects;

3. *Stresses* the importance of keeping the Strategy relevant and contemporary in the light of emerging new threats and evolving trends of international terrorism;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Activities of the United Nations system in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy",[1] welcomes the new summary matrix of counter-terrorism projects implemented by United Nations entities around the world and the efforts deployed by the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force Office in this regard, and underlines the importance of providing the necessary resources for the implementation of these projects;

5. *Also takes note* of the measures that Member States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations have adopted within the framework of the Strategy, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General, which are to be considered at the fourth biennial review of the Strategy, on 12 and 13 June 2014, all of which strengthen cooperation to fight terrorism, including through the exchange of best practices;

6. *Reaffirms* the principal responsibility of Member States to implement the Strategy, while further recognizing the need to enhance the important role that the United Nations, including the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, plays, in coordination with other international, regional and subregional organizations, as appropriate, in facilitating and promoting coordination and coherence in the implementation of the Strategy at the national, regional and global levels and in providing assistance, upon request by Member States, especially in the area of capacity-building;

[1] A/68/841.

7. *Affirms* the importance of the integrated and balanced implementation of all pillars of the Strategy, recognizing the importance of redoubling efforts for even attention paid to and even implementation of all the pillars of the Strategy;

8. *Stresses* the significance of a sustained and comprehensive approach, including through stronger efforts, where necessary, to address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, bearing in mind that terrorism will not be defeated by military force, law enforcement measures and intelligence operations alone;

9. *Recognizes* the principal responsibility of Member States to implement the Strategy, while encouraging the further elaboration and development of national, subregional and regional plans, as appropriate, to support the implementation of the Strategy;

10. *Encourages* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to engage, as appropriate, in efforts to enhance the implementation of the Strategy, including through interaction with Member States and the United Nations system, and encourages Member States and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and its entities to enhance engagement with civil society in accordance with their mandates, as appropriate, and to support its role in the implementation of the Strategy;

11. *Calls upon* Member States and the United Nations entities involved in supporting counter-terrorism efforts to continue to facilitate the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as due process and the rule of law, while countering terrorism;

12. *Urges* all States to respect and protect the right to privacy, as set out in article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[2] and article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[3] including in the context of digital communication, also while countering terrorism, in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights law, and to take measures to ensure that interferences with or restrictions on that right are not arbitrary, are adequately regulated by law, and are subject to effective oversight and to appropriate redress, including through judicial review or other legal means;

13. *Urges* Member States to ensure that any measures taken or means employed to counter terrorism, including the use of remotely piloted aircraft, comply with their obligations under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, human rights law and international humanitarian law, in particular the principles of distinction and proportionality;

14. *Recognizes* the work done and efforts made by the relevant United Nations bodies and entities and other international, regional and subregional organizations aimed at supporting, recognizing and protecting the rights of victims of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and urges them to step up their efforts to provide, upon request, technical assistance for building the capacity of Member States in the development and implementation of programmes of assistance and support for victims of terrorism;

15. *Deeply deplores* the suffering caused by terrorism to the victims of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and to their families, expresses its

[2] Resolution 217 A (III).

[3] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

profound solidarity with them, encourages Member States to provide them with proper support and assistance while taking into account, inter alia, when appropriate, considerations regarding remembrance, dignity, respect, justice and truth, in accordance with international law;

16. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to increase its transparency, accountability and effectiveness, and calls upon the Task Force and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre to improve the strategic nature and impact of their programmes and policies;

17. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider becoming parties in a timely manner to the existing international conventions and protocols against terrorism, and upon all States to make every effort to conclude a comprehensive convention on international terrorism, and recalls the commitments of Member States with regard to the implementation of General Assembly and Security Council resolutions relating to international terrorism;

18. *Underlines*, in that regard, the importance of greater coordination among United Nations entities and of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system, as well as the need to continue promoting transparency and to avoid duplication in their work;

19. *Recognizes* the continued need to enhance the visibility and effectiveness of United Nations counter-terrorism activities and ensure greater cooperation, coordination and coherence among United Nations entities, with a view to maximizing synergies, promoting transparency and greater efficiencies and avoiding duplication of their work;

20. *Reaffirms* the need for enhanced dialogue among the counter-terrorism officials of Member States to promote international, regional and subregional cooperation and wider dissemination of knowledge of the Strategy in order to counter terrorism, and in that regard recalls the role of the United Nations system, in particular the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, in promoting international cooperation and capacity-building as elements of the Strategy;

21. *Recognizes* the role of the regional organizations, structures and strategies in combating terrorism, and encourages them to consider using best practices developed by other regions in their fight against terrorism, as appropriate, taking into account their specific regional and national circumstances;

22. *Recalls* that all States must cooperate fully in the fight against terrorism, in accordance with their obligations under international law, in order to find, deny safe haven and bring to justice, on the basis of the principle of extradite or prosecute, any person who supports, facilitates, participates or attempts to participate in the financing, planning, preparation or commission of terrorist acts or provides safe havens;

23. *Emphasizes* that tolerance and dialogue among civilizations and the enhancement of interfaith and intercultural understanding and respect among peoples, including at the national, regional and global levels, while avoiding the escalation of hatred, are among the most important elements in promoting cooperation, in combating terrorism and in countering violent extremism, and welcomes the various initiatives to this end;

24. *Urges* all Member States to unite against violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations as well as sectarian violence, encourages the efforts of

leaders to discuss within their communities the causes of violent extremism and discrimination and to evolve strategies to address these causes, and underlines that States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity;

25. *Expresses concern* over terrorist acts committed by lone terrorists in various parts of the world, and recognizes the need to address this issue;

26. *Underlines* the importance of multilateral efforts in combating terrorism and refraining from any practices and measures inconsistent with international law and the principles of the Charter;

27. *Expresses its concern* at the increasing use, in a globalized society, by terrorists and their supporters, of information and communications technologies, in particular the Internet and other media, and the use of such technologies to commit, incite, recruit for, fund or plan terrorist acts, notes the importance of cooperation among stakeholders in the implementation of the Strategy, including among Member States, international, regional and subregional organizations, the private sector and civil society, to address this issue, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and complying with international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter, and reiterates that such technologies can be powerful tools in countering the spread of terrorism, including by promoting tolerance and dialogue among peoples and peace;

28. *Expresses concern* at the increase, in some regions, in incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups, for any purpose, including with the aim of raising funds or gaining political concessions, notes that ransoms paid to terrorists are used as one of the sources of funding for their activities, including further kidnappings, calls upon all Member States to prevent terrorists from benefiting from ransom payments and political concessions and to secure the safe release of hostages, in accordance with applicable legal obligations, and encourages Member States to cooperate, as appropriate, during incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups;

29. *Encourages* all Member States to collaborate with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre and to contribute to the implementation of its activities within the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force;

30. *Notes with appreciation* the activities undertaken in the area of capacity-building by United Nations entities, including the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force entities, inter alia, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to assist Member States, upon their request, in implementing the Strategy, and encourages the Task Force to ensure focused delivery of capacity-building assistance, including in the framework of the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism Initiative;

31. *Expresses its concern* at the increasing flow of international recruits to terrorist organizations, including foreign terrorist fighters, and at the threat it poses for all Member States, including countries of origin, transit and destination, encourages all Member States to address this threat by enhancing their cooperation and developing relevant measures to prevent and tackle this phenomenon, including information-sharing, border management to detect travel, and appropriate criminal justice response, and to consider the use of United Nations instruments, such as sanctions regimes, as well as cooperation;

32. *Recognizes* the need to continue to take measures to prevent and suppress the financing of terrorism, and in this regard encourages United Nations entities to cooperate with Member States and to continue to provide assistance, upon their request, in particular, to help them to fully implement their respective international obligations to combat the financing of terrorism;

33. *Calls upon* all States to adopt such measures as may be necessary and appropriate, and in accordance with their obligations under international law, to prohibit by law incitement to commit a terrorist act or acts, prevent such conduct and deny safe haven to any persons with respect to whom there is credible and relevant information giving serious reasons for considering that they have been guilty of such conduct;

34. *Calls for* the enhanced engagement of Member States with the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force;

35. *Requests* the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to continue its positive efforts in interacting with Member States, and further requests the Task Force to continue to provide quarterly briefings and to provide a periodic workplan for the Task Force, including the activities of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre;

36. *Encourages* the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to work closely with Member States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to identify and share best practices to prevent terrorist attacks on potentially vulnerable targets, and recognizes the importance of developing public-private partnerships in this area;

37. *Recalls* all resolutions of the General Assembly on measures to eliminate international terrorism and relevant resolutions of the Assembly on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism and all resolutions of the Security Council relating to international terrorism, and calls upon Member States to cooperate fully with the relevant bodies of the United Nations in the fulfilment of their tasks, recognizing that many States continue to require assistance in implementing these resolutions;

38. *Encourages* all relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and forums involved in the fight against terrorism to cooperate with the United Nations system and Member States in supporting the Strategy, noting recent initiatives in this regard;

39. *Underscores* the role, within the United Nations, of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, including in assessing issues and trends relating to the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1624 (2005) of 14 September 2005, in accordance with its mandate and Council resolution 2129 (2013) of 17 December 2013, and in sharing information, as appropriate, with relevant United Nations counter-terrorism bodies and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations;

40. *Recognizes* that Al-Qaida and its affiliates continue to pose a widespread challenge in the fight against terrorism, encourages Member States to integrate the Al-Qaida sanctions regime, pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999 and 1989 (2011) of 17 June 2011, into their national and regional counter-terrorism strategies, including by proposing for inclusion on the Al-Qaida sanctions list the names of individuals and entities, takes note of the significant contribution of the Office of the Ombudsperson, since its establishment, in

providing fairness and transparency to the Al-Qaida sanctions regime, and stresses the need to continue efforts to ensure that procedures are fair and clear;

41. *Underlines* the importance of enhancing counter-terrorism efforts undertaken by all relevant United Nations agencies and bodies in accordance with their existing mandates, and encourages the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to continue its collaboration with those agencies and bodies;

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, no later than April 2016, a report on progress made in the implementation of the Strategy since its adoption in September 2006, which could contain suggestions for its future implementation by the United Nations system, as well as on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

43. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session the item entitled "The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy" in order to undertake, by June 2016, an examination of the report of the Secretary-General requested in paragraph 42 above, as well as of the implementation of the Strategy by Member States, and to consider updating the Strategy to respond to changes.

97th plenary meeting
13 June 2014

General Assembly

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24 June 2014

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 53

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 16 June 2014

[*on the report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/68/426/Add.1)*]

68/277. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,

Recalling in particular its resolution 67/301 of 16 September 2013,

Affirming that the efforts of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through its peacekeeping operations, are indispensable,

Convinced of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the field of peacekeeping and to enhance the effective and efficient deployment of its peacekeeping operations,

Considering the contribution that all States Members of the United Nations make to peacekeeping,

Noting the widespread interest in contributing to the work of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations expressed by Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries,

Bearing in mind the continuous necessity of preserving the efficiency and strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Special Committee,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;[1]

2. *Endorses* the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee contained in paragraphs 17 to 315 of its report;

3. *Urges* Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all steps necessary to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee;

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/68/19).

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4. *Reiterates* that those Member States that become personnel contributors to United Nations peacekeeping operations in years to come or that participate in the future in the Special Committee for three consecutive years as observers shall, upon request in writing to the Chair of the Special Committee, become members at the following session of the Special Committee;

5. *Decides* that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate, shall continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects and shall review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in this field;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects".

98th plenary meeting
16 June 2014

United Nations A/RES/68/278

General Assembly

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26 June 2014

Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 63 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 16 June 2014

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/68/L.43/Rev.1 and Add.1)*]

68/278. Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa,[1] its resolution 53/92 of 7 December 1998 and subsequent annual resolutions, including resolutions 60/223 of 23 December 2005, 61/230 of 22 December 2006, 62/275 of 11 September 2008, 63/304 of 23 July 2009, 64/252 of 8 February 2010, 65/278 of 13 June 2011, 66/287 of 23 July 2012 and 67/293 of 24 July 2013, as well as its resolutions 62/179 of 19 December 2007, 63/267 of 31 March 2009, 64/258 of 16 March 2010, 65/284 of 22 June 2011, 66/286 of 23 July 2012 and 67/294 of 15 August 2013 on the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and 59/213 of 20 December 2004, 63/310 of 14 September 2009, 65/274 of 18 April 2011 and 67/302 of 16 September 2013 on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union,

Recalling also, in this context, Security Council resolutions 1809 (2008) of 16 April 2008 on peace and security in Africa, 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009, 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009, 1960 (2010) of 16 December 2010, 2106 (2013) of 24 June 2013 and 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 on women and peace and security, 1366 (2001) of 30 August 2001 on the role of the Council in the prevention of armed conflicts, 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005, 1882 (2009) of 4 August 2009, 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011 and 2068 (2012) of 19 September 2012 on children and armed conflict, 1625 (2005) of 14 September 2005 on strengthening the effectiveness of the role of the Council in conflict prevention, particularly in Africa, and 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005 and 2033 (2012) of 12 January 2012 on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security,

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 45* (A/56/45).

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Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] through which world leaders reaffirmed their commitment to addressing the special needs of Africa, and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006,

Reaffirming the political declaration on Africa's development needs adopted at the high-level meeting on 22 September 2008,[3]

Recalling the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[4] and recognizing that development, peace, security and human rights are closely interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

Recalling also the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document entitled "The future we want",[5]

Recalling further its resolution 66/293 of 17 September 2012 establishing a monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa's development, and looking forward to the first biennial report to be submitted by the Secretary-General at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming the political declaration on the peaceful resolution of conflicts in Africa, adopted at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly held on 25 April 2013,[6]

Recalling the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, convened by the President of the General Assembly on 25 September 2013, and its outcome document,[7]

Stressing that the responsibility for peace and security in Africa, including the capacity to address the root causes of conflict and to resolve conflicts in a peaceful manner, lies primarily with African countries, while recognizing the need for the provision of support by the international community and the United Nations, taking into account the responsibilities of the Organization in this regard according to the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing, in particular, the importance of strengthening the capacity of the African Union and subregional organizations to address the causes of conflict in Africa,

Noting that, despite the positive trends and advances in obtaining durable peace in Africa, the conditions required for sustainable development have yet to be consolidated throughout the continent and that there is therefore an urgent need to continue developing African human and institutional capacities, particularly in countries emerging from conflict,

Expressing concern, in this context, about the resurgence of coups d'état in a few African countries and their negative impact on the consolidation of peace and development,

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[2] Resolution 60/1.

[3] Resolution 63/1.

[4] Resolution 65/1.

[5] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[6] Resolution 67/259.

[7] Resolution 68/6.

Welcoming the continuing efforts of the African Union and subregional organizations to settle conflicts and promote human rights, democracy, the rule of law and constitutional order in Africa,

Reaffirming the commitment to ensure that there shall be no tolerance for impunity for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity or for violations of international humanitarian law and gross violations of human rights law, and that such violations shall be properly investigated and appropriately sanctioned, including by bringing the perpetrators of any crimes to justice, through national mechanisms or, where appropriate, regional or international mechanisms, in accordance with international law, and for that purpose encouraging States to strengthen national judicial systems and institutions,

Reaffirming also the need to strengthen the synergy between Africa's economic and social development programmes and its peace and security agenda,

Underlining the importance of enhancing national and regional initiatives, with international support, to address the negative implications of the illegal exploitation of natural resources in all its aspects for peace, security and development in Africa, and condemning the illicit trade in and proliferation of arms, especially small arms and light weapons,

Acknowledging that the achievement of durable peace and sustainable development in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations requires that national Governments and international partners continue to develop coordinated approaches tailored to the peacebuilding needs and challenges faced by those countries,

Reaffirming, in this regard, the importance of the Peacebuilding Commission as a dedicated mechanism to address, within its existing mandate and in an integrated manner, the special needs of countries emerging from conflict towards recovery, reintegration and reconstruction and to assist them in laying the foundation for peace and sustainable development, taking into consideration national priorities and the principle of national ownership,

Encouraging the United Nations system, the African Union and subregional organizations to enhance their interaction with civil society, academia and research institutions on issues relevant to the promotion of peace, security and sustainable development in Africa, and welcoming the ongoing efforts in this regard, including by the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations Office to the African Union to enhance the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union, particularly in the areas of peace, security and political and humanitarian affairs, and reaffirming the need to ensure coordination and increase cost-effectiveness among relevant entities of the United Nations system involved in the implementation of the 10-year capacity-building programme, in particular the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Office to the African Union,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa;[8]

[8] A/68/220-S/2013/475.

2. *Welcomes* the progress made by African countries, the African Union and subregional organizations in conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and development, calls for intensified efforts and a coordinated approach among national Governments, the African Union, subregional organizations, the United Nations system and relevant partners in addressing those challenges, with a view to achieving further progress towards the goal of a conflict-free Africa, and in this regard recognizes the important role played by civil society organizations, including women's organizations;

3. *Also welcomes* the commitment of the African leaders to Africa's political, social and economic integration agenda and to the ideal of pan-Africanism and African renaissance, as reaffirmed in the solemn declaration adopted on 26 May 2013 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity/African Union;

4. *Further welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the African Union and subregional organizations to strengthen their peacekeeping capacity and to take the lead in peacekeeping operations on the continent, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and in close coordination with the United Nations, through the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, as well as the ongoing efforts to develop a continental early warning system, operationalize the African Standby Force, establish the African capacity for immediate response to crises and enhance mediation capacity and preventive diplomacy, including through the Panel of the Wise;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and Member States to support the peace consolidation mechanisms and processes, including the Panel of the Wise, the African Union Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development Framework and the continental early warning system, including its subregional components, as well as the operationalization of the African Standby Force;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to assist post-conflict countries, at their request, in achieving a smooth transition from relief to development and to support relevant United Nations bodies, including the Peacebuilding Commission;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, the international community and all partners to support the efforts of African countries to promote political, social and economic inclusion;

8. *Stresses* the importance of creating an environment conducive to national reconciliation and social and economic recovery in countries emerging from conflict;

9. *Invites* the United Nations and the donor community to increase efforts to support ongoing regional efforts to build African mediation and negotiation capacity;

10. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and Member States to support the African Union in its effort to effectively integrate training in international humanitarian law and international human rights law, with particular emphasis on the rights of women and children, into the training of civilian and military personnel of national standby contingents at both the operational and tactical levels, as set out in article 13 of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union;

11. *Recognizes* that international and regional efforts to prevent conflict and consolidate peace in Africa should be channelled towards the sustainable

development of Africa and the human and institutional capacity-building of African countries and organizations, particularly in priority areas identified at the continental level;

12. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the joint visit of the Secretary-General and the President of the World Bank to the countries of the Great Lakes region of Africa from 22 to 24 May 2013 and the financial pledge announced by the World Bank during the visit in support of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the region, as well as the joint visit of the Secretary-General, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the President of the World Bank, the President of the African Development Bank and the European Union Commissioner for Development to the Sahel region from 4 to 7 November 2013, during which financial pledges were made to support the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel, and calls for the fulfilment of all the pledges made;

13. *Recalls* the signing of the declaration on enhancing cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union in Addis Ababa on 16 November 2006[9] and the ongoing efforts in this regard, notes with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the review of the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union,[10] underlines the importance of accelerating the implementation of the programme, urges all stakeholders to support the full implementation of the 10-year capacity-building programme in all its aspects, in particular the operationalization of the African Standby Force, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the progress made in this regard;

14. *Stresses* the critical importance of a regional approach to conflict prevention, in particular with respect to cross-border issues such as transnational organized crime, disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, resettlement and reintegration programmes, the prevention of illegal exploitation of natural resources and trafficking in high-value commodities and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and emphasizes in this regard the central role of the African Union and subregional organizations in addressing such issues;

15. *Notes with concern* that violence against women and children, including sexual violence, continues and may increase even as armed conflicts draw to an end, urges further progress in the implementation of policies and guidelines relating to the protection of and assistance to women and children in conflict and post-conflict situations in Africa, including more systematic monitoring and reporting, notes the adoption by the General Assembly and the Security Council of relevant resolutions, and encourages the entities that compose United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to assist the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict in the implementation of her mandate, including in Africa;

16. *Also notes with concern* the tragic plight of children in conflict situations in Africa, in particular the phenomenon of child soldiers, as well as other violations against children, stresses the need for the protection of children in armed conflicts and for ensuring that the protection and rights of children in armed conflicts are integrated into all peace processes, also stresses the need for post-conflict counselling, rehabilitation and education, with due regard for the relevant

[9] A/61/630, annex.

[10] A/65/716-S/2011/54.

resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, and encourages the relevant parts of the United Nations system to assist in the implementation of the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, including in Africa;

17. *Stresses* the importance of addressing the socioeconomic dimension of youth unemployment as well as facilitating the enhanced participation of youth in decision-making processes, with a view to addressing social, political and economic challenges;

18. *Calls for* the enhancement of the role of women in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding, consistent with relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008) on women and peace and security, and calls upon Member States in this context to support the work of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), established by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010;

19. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the African Union to ensure the protection of the rights of women in conflict and post-conflict situations, recalls in this regard the adoption and entry into force of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa and the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa, the African Union Gender Policy and the Southern African Development Community Protocol on Gender and Development, as well as the Framework for Cooperation on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence in Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations in Africa signed by the African Union Commission and the United Nations, stresses the significance of those instruments for all countries in Africa for strengthening the role of women in peace and conflict prevention on the continent, and strongly urges the United Nations and all relevant parties to redouble their efforts and support in this regard;

20. *Takes note* of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, which entered into force on 6 December 2012, and the Kampala Declaration on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, adopted on 23 October 2009;

21. *Calls for* the safeguarding of the principle of refugee protection in Africa and the resolution of the plight of refugees, including through support for efforts aimed at addressing the causes of refugee movement and bringing about the voluntary, dignified, safe and sustainable return and reintegration of those populations, and calls upon the international community, including Member States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant United Nations organizations, within their respective mandates, to take concrete action to meet the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and to contribute generously to projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight, facilitating durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons and supporting vulnerable local host communities;

22. *Recognizes* the important contribution of the African Peer Review Mechanism since its inception in improving governance and supporting socioeconomic development in African countries, and recalls in this regard the high-level panel discussion held on 21 October 2013 on Africa's innovation in governance through 10 years of the African Peer Review Mechanism, organized during the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Mechanism;

23. *Welcomes* African-led initiatives to strengthen political, economic and corporate governance, such as the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance and the African Peer Review Mechanism, encourages more African countries to participate in this process, and calls upon the United Nations system and Member States to assist African countries and regional and subregional organizations, upon their request, in their ongoing efforts to promote democracy, constitutional order and the rule of law, to enhance good governance and to continue to fight against impunity, as well as in the holding of free, fair, inclusive and transparent elections;

24. *Recognizes* the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in ensuring that national ownership of the peacebuilding process in countries emerging from conflict is observed and that nationally identified priorities are at the core of international and regional efforts in post-conflict peacebuilding in the countries under consideration, notes the important steps taken by the Commission in engaging with Burundi, the Central African Republic, Guinea-Bissau and Sierra Leone, through integrated peacebuilding strategies, and with Guinea and Liberia, through statements of mutual commitments for peacebuilding, and calls for sustained regional and international commitment to the implementation of those strategies and mutual commitments;

25. *Stresses* the importance of effectively addressing the challenges that continue to hamper the achievement of peace, stability and sustainable development on the continent, and encourages the United Nations system and Member States to assist African countries in effectively addressing these challenges;

26. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, and invites Member States, to assist African countries emerging from conflict, upon their request as appropriate, in their efforts to build national capacities, including through national security sector reform strategies, the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, the provision for the safe return of internally displaced persons and refugees, the launch of income-generation activities, particularly for youth and women, and the delivery of basic public services;

27. *Takes note* of the African Union policy framework on security sector reform adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its summit in January 2013, welcomes the support rendered by the United Nations and development partners in the formulation of the policy framework, and calls upon the international community, including the United Nations system, to continue to support the efforts towards its implementation;

28. *Urges* continued support for measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and hunger, job creation and sustainable development in Africa, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, fulfilment of commitments on official development assistance and increased flows of foreign direct investment and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms;

29. *Recognizes* the need for African countries to make continued efforts to create enabling environments for inclusive growth in support of sustainable development and for the international community to make continued efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support those development efforts by African countries, and welcomes the various important initiatives established between African countries and their development partners in this regard;

30. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and Member States, bilateral and multilateral partners and new partners, to deliver expeditiously on commitments and to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the provisions of the political declaration on Africa's development needs,[3] as well as the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[11]

31. *Stresses* the need to promote socioeconomic development on the continent, and in this context takes note of the Declaration on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa, adopted by the African Union in 2004, as well as the recommendations of the Millennium Development Goals Africa Steering Group, which were endorsed by the African Union in July 2008 and which cover such critical areas as agriculture and food security, education, health, infrastructure and trade facilitation and the national statistical system;

32. *Encourages* African Governments to strengthen structures and policies in order to create an environment conducive to the promotion of inclusive economic growth and to attracting foreign direct investment by, inter alia, achieving a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate, with proper contract enforcement and respect for property rights, and to promote socioeconomic development and social justice, calls upon African Member States and regional and subregional organizations to assist the African countries concerned, at their request, by enhancing their capacity to devise and improve their national natural resources and public revenue management structures, and in this regard invites the international community to assist in that process by providing adequate financial and technical assistance and by renewing its commitment to efforts aimed at combating the illegal exploitation of the natural resources of those countries, in conformity with international law;

33. *Recalls* relevant resolutions on the strengthening of cooperation and communication between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations or arrangements, and encourages coordination and cooperation between the United Nations system and regional and subregional organizations and regional economic communities in advocacy and in the mobilization of the support of the international community for African countries and towards the priorities of their continental and regional institutions;

34. *Notes* the completion of the review of the implementation of the recommendations contained in the 1998 report of the Secretary-General,[12] and requests the Secretary-General to develop, in consultation with relevant partners, policy proposals on issues identified in his report, including enhancing cooperation among the United Nations, the African Union and subregional organizations, particularly in conflict prevention and resolution, peacekeeping, post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery, and promoting socioeconomic development, good governance, the rule of law and human rights;

35. *Takes note* of the recommendations presented by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on possible ways to strengthen the interdepartmental task force on African affairs,[13] including through enhancing joint advocacy for international support to Africa, assisting in the mobilization of support for the implementation of relevant programmes and initiatives in Africa and

[11] A/57/304, annex.

[12] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[13] See A/67/205/Add.1-S/2012/715/Add.1.

championing approaches and solutions that take into account the enabling environment that peace and security provide for development, and reaffirms the need to ensure further coherence and an integrated approach for United Nations support to Africa, including in following up on the implementation of all global summit and conference outcomes related to Africa;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor and report to the General Assembly on an annual basis on persistent and emerging challenges to the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, as well as on the approach and support of the United Nations system.

98th plenary meeting
16 June 2014